(c) The projected number of beneficiaries would be 1000 families.

(d) Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources had released amount as indicated below to the Tripura Renewable Energy Development Agency :—

Year	Funds released
1997-98	Rs. 25.69 lakhs
1998-99	Rs. 83.19 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs. 64.00 lakhs

Projects for Backward Tribal, Areas in Tripura

3154. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tripura has sent any proposal for specific areas based projects for the overall development of selected backward tribal areas of the State;

(b) if so, how many such projects have been received by the Central Government from the State during the last two years;

(c) the total fund sought to be released by Government for the implementation of those projects; and

(d) the details of the fund released, so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) During the last two years, nine projects involving a total amount of Rs. 130.38 crores were received from the Government of Tripura.

(d) Release of Specific project based funds has been discontinued since 1989-90, and instead funds are being released on the basis of the tribal population of State leaving it to the States themselves to take up projects for implementation. The funds released to Government of Tripura towards Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan and under Article 275(1) of the Constitution during the last two years is as follows :—

	SCA to TSP	Article 275 (1) of Costs
		(Rs. in lakhs)
1998-99	977.77	162.50
1999-2000	831.57	124.74

Scheme for Cerebral Palsy and Mentally Retarded in Bihar

3155. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are implementing welfare schemes for the citizens with cerebral palsy and mental retardation in the State of Bihar.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of persons being benefited from such schemes at present in the State ?

(d) the assistance being extended by the State Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) : The Ministry is not implementing any welfare schemes for the citizens with cerebral palsy and mental retardation directly and specifically for the State of Bihar. However, the Ministry implements through the non-Governmental Organizations, "Scheme to promote Voluntry Action for persons with Disabilities", under which NGOs from any of the State/UTs including Bihar desirous of working for the welfare of persons afflicted with Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation can apply for assistance under the terms and conditions of the said scheme.

(c) The Ministry had assisted one such organization in the year 1998-99 which benefits 60 persons.

(d) The Scheme to promote voluntary action for persons with disabilities provide for central assistance to the extent of 90% of the admissible amount and the balance 10% is required to be contributed by voluntry organization. No assistance from the State Government under the Scheme is envisaged.